



Janet T. Mills
Governor

STATE OF MAINE
Maine Prescription Drug Affordability Board
61 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0061

Noah Nesin
Chair

Maine Prescription Drug Affordability Board
Tuesday January 17, 2023 @ 10:30 am
Microsoft TEAMS Meeting

In Person Location: Burton M. Cross Building, Augusta, Maine - Room 400, 4th Floor, ME

Board Members in Attendance: Dr. Noah Nesin, Heather Perreault, Jennifer Reck, Dr. Julia Redding, Rhonda Selvin, Dr. Susan Wehry
(Total = 4)

Board Members Absent: Peter Hayes

Vacant Seat(s): 2

Others Present:

Advisory Council: Jennifer Kent, Christina Moylan, Anne-Marie Toderico, Shonna Poulin-Gutierrez

Employee Health & Wellness: Devon French, Roberta DuPont, Emma-Lee St. Germain

All Others: Kate Ende, Ann Woloson, Chris Feeney

Agenda Item:	Discussion:	Action/Next Steps:
I. Call to Order (10:33 am)	Dr. Noah Nesin called the meeting to order.	
II. Introductions		
III. Approval of the Minutes (December 20, 2022)		Rhonda Selvin made motion to accept the meeting minutes; Dr. Julia Redding seconded the motion. Motion passed.
IV. Monthly Business		
a. Review and Approval of Annual Report – Group Discussion	Information contained in written reports; highlights and discussion noted below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Update:</u> The mission and vision statements are the same from last years report. The board membership has a new vacancy from Dr. Kenneth McCall and Frank Wiltuck leaving the board. There is a process to approve new replacements. Edits were made to the 	Susan Weary made a motion to approve the board report as edited in todays meeting; Dr. Peter Hayes seconded the motion. Motion passed.



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titles of the board members. The Advisory Council Members list has been updated per the members' request.

- 2022 Overview: Members of the board have no recommendations for additions to this section.
- Spending Target Recommendation: The 10-year rolling average was determined to be 3.9%. There was a consultation with Program on Regulation, Therapeutics, and Law (PORTAL) around using this prescribed rolling average to create spending targets. Inflation is high and must be taken into consideration. There may be a handful of drugs that drive costs. Accounting for rebated and where that money goes can be very challenging.
- Reference Rates: In the March 22 report, the MPDAB recommended that the legislature consider instituting International Reference Rates and continues to support those recommendations. Because Canadian drug prices are often a fraction of U.S. prices for the same drugs, it is anticipated that the Maine studies will show results like those outlined, representing substantial savings. Susan Weary suggests that the board be more directive and that the board supports that motion.
- 340B Transparency: The 340B program has rapidly expanded. It has turned into a \$45B industry. It isn't clear how these dollars are being utilized. The board is asking that legislation be put in place so that facilities are made to offer transparency and accountability to show how they are using these dollars in the community. Currently there is no rule on what hospitals charge for the drugs or that the funds saved need to be spent on the vulnerable populations.
- Collaborating with Drug Affordability Boards in Other States: The Maine Prescription Affordability Board is part of a collaborative of six states. Maine and New Hampshire have similar PDABs, both charged with setting prescription drug spending targets for public purchasers. Other PDABs, such as those in Colorado and Maryland, are tasked with conducting affordability reviews and, when appropriate, setting upper payment limits based on those reviews.



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Two Requests from the Maine Prescription Drug Affordability Board</u>: With Dr. Kenneth McCall’s departure it is suggested by Dr. Noah Nesin that whoever fills this role bring perspective as a pharmacist. The Maine Prescription Drug Affordability Board is currently awaiting staffing of the office of Affordable Healthcare with will bring support in finding and human resources to the Maine Prescription Drug Affordability Board. 	
<p>b. Update on New Legislation Related to Healthcare Costs – Jennifer Reck</p>	<p>Discussion highlights below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>2023 Prescription Drug Bill Titles</u>: There were several reference pricing bills filed to reduce prescription drug costs that NASHP will be tracking. There were also a number of bills being tracked regarding prescription drug manufacturing and production legislation. 340B Legislation bills are also being brought forth for 2023. 	
V. Other Business		
<p>a. 2023 Meeting Hybrid Model</p>	<p>Discussion highlights below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>2023 Meeting Hybrid Model</u>: Each board member as an individual can make the determination as to whether they will join the meetings in office or via Google Teams. Going forward, all meetings require an in-person option unless specified by the appropriate parties. Under the current remote meeting policy, all board members are expected to be present with the exception a set number on considerations. 	
<p>b. Meeting Schedule</p>	<p>Discussion highlights below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The board is currently on an every other month schedule with the next meeting in March 2023 if the schedule is flipped. It was also suggested that the day be moved to 10:30am on 4th Mondays. 	



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	Roberta Dupont will look into the meeting space and email the board and council members.	
c. Open Discussion	Discussion highlights below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No items were brought to the board. 	
VI. Adjourn (11:59 am)		Susan Weary made a motion to adjourn; Peter Hayes seconded the motion. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting: March 27, 2023